

a transferring device for transferring the workpiece between said transferring device and said top ring, said transferring device having a holder for holding the workpiece, said holder being elevated when the workpiece is transferred between said transferring device and said top ring located above said transferring device.

45. (New) A polishing apparatus according to claim 44, wherein said transferring device includes a shock absorber for resiliently supporting said holder so that the workpiece is not subject to impact force during the transfer between said transferring device and said top ring.

46. (New) A polishing apparatus according to claim 44, wherein said holder comprises a support member having a suction hole connected to a vacuum source for attracting the workpiece to said support member.

47. (New) A polishing apparatus according to claim 44, further comprising a washing unit for washing the workpiece after it is received by said transferring device.

48. (New) A polishing apparatus according to claim 44, wherein said holder has a pad to support the workpiece thereon.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that the original patent, or a declaration as to its loss, must be received before the reissue application can be allowed; pointed out alleged defects in the reissue declaration, and rejected claims 1-43 as being based upon a defective reissue declaration. The Examiner also